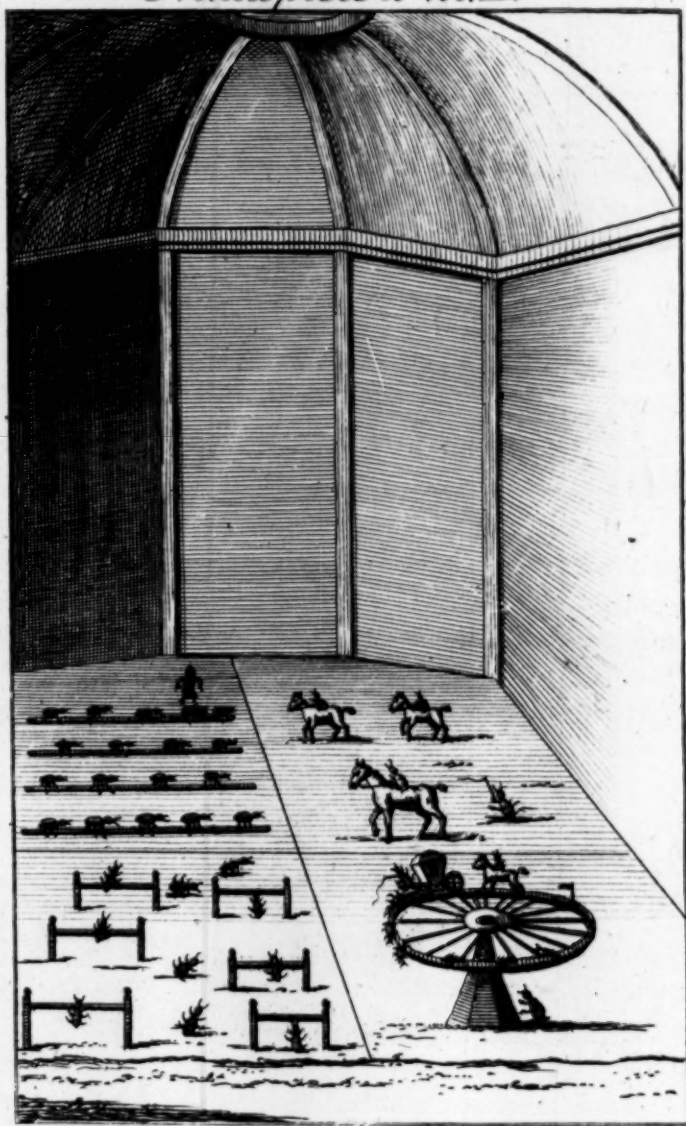
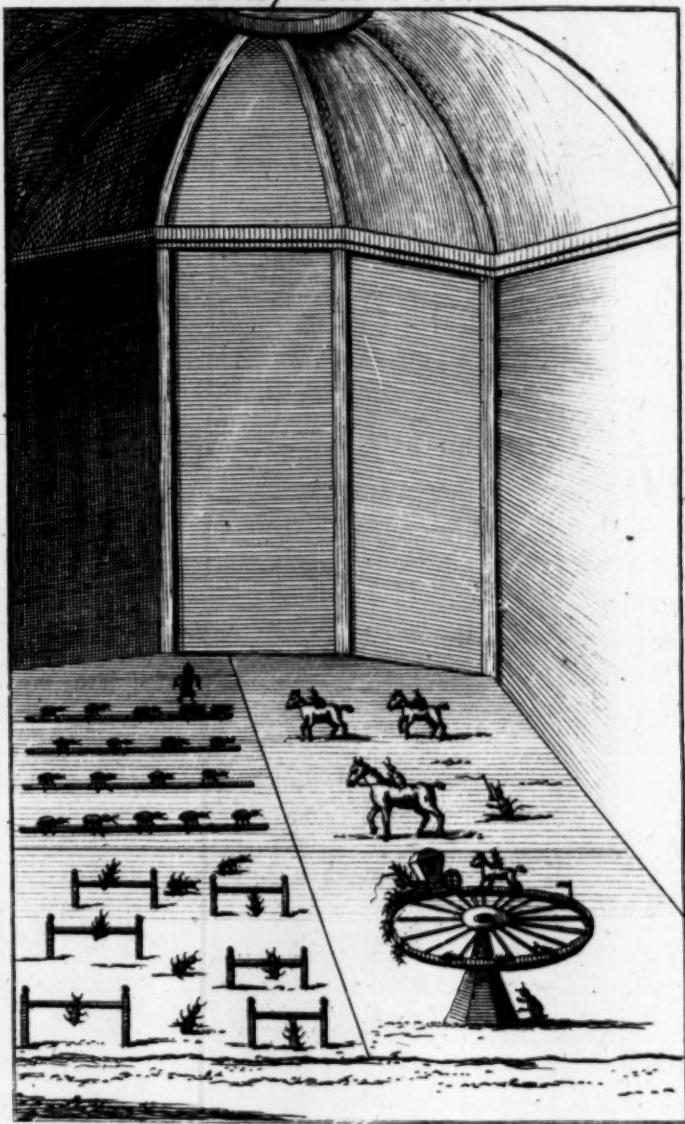


Frontispiece to Vol. II.



Hæc Via fertur ad Aftra *See V.I.p. 45.*

Frontispiece to Vol. II.



Hæc Via fertur ad Aftra *See V.I.p. 45.*

T H E
A N T S :
A
R H A P S O D Y .

V O L. II.

Habet et Musca Splenem. *Æsop.*

To expose Vice, and make people laugh with
Innocence, does more public service than all
the Ministers of State from Adam to Walpole.
SWIFT.

L O N D O N :

Printed for L. DAVIS and C. REYMERS, in Holborn ;
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in Pater-noster-Row.

MDCCLXVII.

THE

ST. MARK

ST. MARK

ST. MARK



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ST. MARK



T H E
A N T S.

“**T**HE red emmets, however, who were employed in the collecting and gathering red chips in the neighbouring parts, quickly observed, that the inferior sort of brown ants, who are the most valuable part in every industrious and mercantile community, were by this method of traffic subject to great and violent oppressions. They, therefore, went privately to pay some of them a visit, and took the liberty to tell them that they were scandalously

VOL. II.

B abused

abused and imposed upon : that their governors, their officers, and overseers, were nothing better than a pack of grand villains and rascals : that they picked their pockets in a most infamous manner, without the least remorse and shame : that if they would now and then, when they came upon that coast to gather chips, bring them a little of that shining sand, they would give them twice as much, and twice as good of any thing they wanted, as their fellow-subjects would condescend to give them, and get a better profit to themselves into the bargain.

“ Proposals of such mutual advantage as these appeared to be, you may naturally suppose would be most readily agreed to by every ant that had common sense, or the least pretences to a common understanding, or the smallest skill in the nature of trade and commerce ; and accordingly the agreement was carried into execution
for

for a considerable time, to the mutual advantage of the private inhabitants of both hillocks, and the vast encrease of their private hoards and granaries, till the grandees of the brown colony perceiving they had not so good a market for their commodities (the sale of which they had engrossed to themselves) as they used to have, took the alarm, and resolved to search into the matter, and, upon examination, found the fact to be as I have related.

“ No sooner had they made the important discovery, than they resolved to lodge a most violent and virulent complaint before their sovereign lord the king, setting forth, that his majesty’s liege subjects in their parts, and their red neighbours had entered into a secret combination, under the artful pretence of gathering red chips upon their coasts, to pick his majesty’s pocket in a most shameful

manner, and engross all the shining sand in the country to themselves ; so that, in all probability, in a little time, if they were suffered to go on as they had done, they should not be able, with all their fidelity, to save the least bit for his own private benefit, use, and advantage, or the support of his table : that, therefore, it behoved him, both for his honour, his credit, and his interest, to exert the powers which God had given him to remedy these mischiefs, that his good and faithful dependents, officers and servants, might not be reduced to poverty ; and his mean, beggarly subjects, by such mistaken politics, be allowed to roll and wallow themselves in riches, happiness, and plenty : that the best method he could hit upon would be to send a private order to his several viceroys and governors at the west end of his dominions, to seize all the carriages of the red emmets they could meet with, and rifle them of all they had, and
by

by such rigorous measures intimidate them from coming near his majesty's dominions, with any such wicked and villainous intentions ; for by this means they doubted not to engross all the trade of the colony into their own hands, as they had done before, and be enabled soon to save all the shining sand of the settlement for themselves and their master.

“ The advice was wonderfully relished at the brown ant court. The orders were dispatched, and the red emmets were plundered wherever any of them could be caught.

“ This occasioned a vast variety of complaints and squabbles, and some ruptures from time to time, between the two colonies, until, upon the conclusion of the last great squabble, it was mutually agreed on both sides, that the red ants should have an absolute right to gather red chips

in that part of the country in what manner they pleased ; but at the same time their governors should promise for them, and stake their good faith for the performance, that they should have no manner of intercourse at all with the brown ants in the neighbourhood, to the prejudice of his brown majesty, his viceroys, or his agents, upon any account, or for any consideration whatever, but only quietly gather their chips and away.

“ This stipulation appears accordingly to have been agreed to, however contrary to the maxims of sound policy and prudence, by the influence of some few noble red ants, who had wriggled themselves with vast art into the favour of their sovereign, to the great dissatisfaction, disgust, and uneasiness of the private subjects of both colonies, who were thus deprived of the greatest mutual advantage and benefit that can possibly be obtained by trade
and

and merchandize, a mutual exchange of the superfluities of each colony upon even and equitable terms.

“ In order to put this secret article into more complete execution, it was also privately stipulated and agreed upon by the junto of red emmets then in possession of the power and favour of the sovereign, that an order should be sent to the west end of the hillock, to all the red ants who dwelt in those parts, commanding, that they presume not any longer, upon any account, to carry away any of their superfluities, or their rubbish, however they may be cumbered with them, to any other hillock but their own ; and particularly that they should not, upon any account, dare to trade either with the white or the brown emmets, or furnish them with the least stick of wood, or morsel of victuals, not even to keep them from starving, however advantageous it might

be to the granaries of both, and to the public emolument of that part of the colony where they inhabited, that they might have no pretence to charge us any longer with stealing their shining sand, upon any consideration; but rather leave it to the frogs which swarmed about them, than to be guilty of such base and unmannerly practices.

“ It is also thought to have been further agreed upon by the said junto, that at the next great meeting of the general assembly of the colony, a certain decree should be drawn up, and by their weight and influence carried into execution, the more effectually to enforce these salutary measures, and to convince their honest and candid neighbours, the white and brown emmets, that they valued their own good faith, integrity, and private promises, infinitely above the mean and paltry considerations of their country's welfare,

fare, their sovereign's glory, or the ease and prosperity of millions of their fellow-subjects.

“ This decree, it is supposed, they engaged should oblige all the red emmets upon the western side of the hillock not to plant or improve any lands, not to erect or purchase any granaries, not to establish any new hoards, not to transplant any timber or victuals from one colony to another, or even to the east end of the hillock, without first engaging to pay down upon the nail, for the sovereign's use, a certain quantity of that same shining sand they were absolutely deprived of the means of procuring by the late order of the junto, under this plausible pretence : That as the east part of the country had been put to a mighty expence in protecting the western frontier, and driving out the white emmets from all their possessions and encroachments in those parts, they ought
to

to contribute a proportionable share of that expence; and besides the support of their own interior governments and seigniories, send all the shining sand they remained possessed of away to the east end of the colony, where alone they knew how to make a proper use and advantage of it: though at the very same juncture it was a well-known truth in all parts of the hillock, that the industry of the western ants, merely from the labour of their snouts and their claws, supplied the government with at least a sixth part of all the expences they laid out in its support, in all parts of the colony whatever, over and besides the vast opportunity they gave the subjects on that side of the hillock, of trading with the fruits of their industry, to their unspeakable advantage, with all the neighbouring ant hillocks around them.

“In pursuance of this resolution, a decree of this sort was actually drawn up, presented

sented to the assembly, and carried thro' with mighty little opposition, by the superior art and address of the junto; and in due time, by their influence, it also obtained the sovereign's approbation; they having solemnly assured their master that it was impossible to hit upon, or contrive a more effectual method of preventing these western subjects of his from ever revolting, or asserting their own independency, than by obliging them gradually to part with all their shining sand, by insensible degrees, and confine as much as possible all the timber and grain which they were possessed of in their own store-houses; that if they were never so much disposed to rebel, they might be deprived of every means which are thought most suitable and proper for the support of any ant colony in their disobedience to their sovereign's authority, will, and pleasure.

“Misled by such plausible and artful insinuations, the sovereign gave his royal assent

sent to the decree, which was then confirmed in the usual forms; for what sovereign is proof against flattery, or the artful insinuations and reasonings of those about him, when they are inclined to impose upon his judgment, and mislead his footsteps?

“ Not the best of sovereigns, amongst you mortals, are proof at all times against the powerful magic and enchantment of their forceries.

“ Not even your own present sovereign, Eugenio, whom my brother Sylphs boldly declare to be the best and most humane of princes, would have been able to resist the flatteries and importunities of his pretended friends and favourites about him, had they been urged and enforced with half that unwearied vehemence and steady artfulness this junto of the ants made use of to influence their master's judgment, and ensnare his approbation to their deep laid and interested schemes.

“ But

“ But no sooner did the day arrive, appointed for putting the decree into execution in the west end of the hillock, than every place became a scene of public confusion, tumult, and dismay. Resolved to oppose its execution, or perish in the attempt, the ants on that side kept no measures at all with any of those officers who were declared executors of the decree; and the communication between the two parts of the hillock being naturally stopt by so violent an opposition, the ants at the east end soon took the alarm; and that not without the most weighty reasons, because they knew, and were persuaded, they had no other prospect, if the long track continued stopt up, but that themselves and families must soon be in a starving condition, by thus imprudently clogging and blocking up that noble outlet, which they and their ancestors before them had been at so much pains and expence to lay open, enlarge, and improve.

“ In short, such was the rage and resentment of all the industrious ants, in all parts of the colony, that after the most violent debates, and the warmest contests in the grand assembly of the colony, where chief armed against chief, with swords made of metal points, defied one another to the field of battle ; the cries of an injured people were heard, the prayers of the colony prevailed, and the mild, beneficent, and gracious sovereign of the hillock, after declaring his assent to the abolition of this most intolerable burden, was conducted by numberless multitudes, amidst the joyful acclamations of a happy people, to his own apartment, as the true, affectionate, and benevolent father of the hillock.

“ And it is in pursuance of the repeal of this decree, Eugenio, that the several members of any importance in the colony are drawing together again, as you see, to
the

the grand assembly, to consult upon the properest ways and means of repairing the deficiencies caused in the finances of the state thereby, and warding off the fatal blow pretended to be given to the legislative power of the sovereign, and his great assembly, over these parts of his dominions.

“ By this time, it is probable, they are seated in their respective posts : I will conduct thee into the assembly secretly, if thou pleasest, that thou mayest hear the sentiments and reasonings of this seemingly mean and diminitive, but in reality this wise and politic race of animals.”

Upon the philosopher's expressing his desire to be introduced, the Sylph gently taking him up by the tip of the ear, after first sprinkling him over with a small quantity of the fluid he carried in his vial, Eugenio found himself instantaneously

ously conveyed into the midst of a grand assembly, indeed ; where the Sylph, perching upon a small ledge in the roof, and supporting the philosopher with his left hand, whilst he pointed the fore finger of his right before him, softly addressed him in the following manner :

“ Thou seest, Eugenio, that tall emmet who sitteth in a conspicuous place in the midst of the assembly : he is that haughty overbearing emmet whom I pointed out to thee before in the hillock : his name is Meridarpax. The post he possesseth in the direction of the state, is that of law-keeper to his sovereign ; a post of vast importance and consequence to the welfare and peace of the state, as he is the representative of his master, and the sole prosecutor in his name of all the breaches committed against the peace and quiet of the colony, by any impudent or impertinent emmets, whether by overt
acts

acts or secret innuendos, by public rebellion or private opposition, either against the practice or the opinions of the prince, the prime lords of the colony, and the favourites of the sovereign. For these important reasons he is considered of very great consequence to the support of every grand operator, who is so happy as to arrive at the exalted station of directing the flying horse.

“ Observe, also, that sprightly emmet which sits not far from him. He is named Troxartes : thou wilt easily know him again : he is the same industrious emmet I pointed out to thee some time ago. This chief possesseth, in like manner, a considerable place in the sovereign’s favour and the departments of the government, being the sole and supreme judge in all matters relating to his master’s own private estate and income ; and in every dispute which may respect the same, with

any of his fellow-subjects, he is authorized to judge in a summary way, according to his own discretion, and the high power and authority vested in him, without being subject to the least controul, except it be to the sovereign will and pleasure of his own master, or his particular favourites and intimates.

“ Vested with such power and influence, you may naturally suppose he must have great weight and authority in the academy ; so large a portion of the sovereign’s rents and revenues being subject to his inspection, before they are remitted for the support and benefit of the masters and tutors thereof. This makes him an emmet of great weight in the administration.

“ The next remarkable personage I shall recommend to your observation, is that tallish slender emmet, who sits to the

right, at some distance from the former, seemingly in earnest conversation with some elder ants, from whom he is now receiving private notes and directions for his conduct in the high post to which he hath lately been advanced; that under the influence of his noise, his spirit, and intrigues, assisted by his rawness and inexperience in the true conduct of affairs, abler and more artful heads may securely direct the secret operations of the stall, and make themselves compleat masters of the purse of their sovereign lord, however obnoxious they may seem both to him and his people.

“ His name is Hypsiboas. The post he enjoys is that of receiving, disbursing, and accounting for all the shining sand and scraps of paper which are granted by the great assembly of the colony, for the better support of its peace and prosperity, both at home and abroad: his office is

also to make out and direct all the necessary secret exhibitions and out-goings, for the maintaining and preserving the quiet, good temper, and good humour of any turbulent emmets; who by the direction, and at the instigation of their several malicious Gnomes, may be pert and saucy enough to perch themselves upon the wheels of the government carriages, and clog, obstruct, or retard their motions. He is also to furnish all the oil which is necessary to soften and supple the harness and tackling of the machines of the academy, that every part thereof may run smooth, clever, and with ease. If you observe his countenance, you may clearly discover his self-importance, and the high sentiments he entertains of his abilities, and his present honours and dignity. It is true, he hath not yet gone through all the academical exercises; but as he is vastly assiduous in conforming himself to its discipline, and studying its rules with
the

the utmost diligence, it is not doubted, but in due time, when he is permitted to mount, he will outstrip all his predecessors in spirit, fame, and glory, as I told you before he was likely to do, when I pointed him out to you as an imp of fame, in one of the private walks of the colony.

“ The next emmet of note thou mayst distinguish, is seated at a distance to the right. He appears to be in the prime of his years, and is one of the principal persons, who, of late, have engrossed the favour of their sovereign. The post he enjoys is that of letter-writer, and the director of his master’s secret correspondence in all the various parts of the emmet world. For this reason the emmet who enjoys this post is generally complimented with the magnificent title of grand-operator of the flying-horse, as being entrusted with the sovereign’s choicest secrets, and master of his most chosen

purposes and designs. The name which his fellow-ants have given him is that of Seutlæus. Uncertain and unsteady in his views and his pursuits, as I have already described him, and not to be depended upon, either in his friendships or his enmities, he hath, notwithstanding, maintained his favour and reputation with his master, by a constant attention to the foibles of his particular favourites and intimates ; so that by a regular attachment to their uncertain tempers, whims, and humours, this most uncertain of all ants hath obtained and preserved for himself what ought to be properly the reward alone of unwearied application, steadiness, and resolution.

“ The next remarkables I shall direct your eyes to, are the two brother ants : see, they sit yonder together. I have in part unfolded their characters, whilst they were struggling through the hillock, or diverting themselves with some of the
little

little dirty concerns of it. I shall not now add much more, only that their names are Aeichenor and Troglodytes, and that they are esteemed rising emmets in the colony, as being possessors of those particular talents and qualifications which are esteemed in these days the surest guides in the pursuits of ambition, guile, fawning, flattery, and dissimulation."

Here the Sylph made a stop, as it were to recollect himself, and point out some more of the principal members of this grand assembly; when his design was prevented by the rising of Meridarpax, which first occasioned a hollow confused murmur, and then gradually subsided into a still silence, like that of the calm unruffled night; when the chief, addressing himself in the usual forms to the master of the ceremonies to the assembly, delivered his sentiments in the following terms:

THE

SPEECH of MERIDARPAX.

“IT is with the utmost concern, grief, and astonishment, Sir, that I find myself obliged, out of my unfeigned regard for the honour of my sovereign, and the dignity of his prerogative, to deliver my sentiments before this august assembly, upon such a subject as is now before us upon this ill-fated day. Ye gods! the guardians of the emmet constitution! shall a vile race of vagabonds, the off-scourings of the colony, wretches whom the humanity of our laws alone have exempted from a most shameful and ignominious death; shall such as these dare to fly in the face of their allegiance to the best of sovereigns, and their duty and obedience to the prerogatives of his dignity, to which they owe their safety and protection? Shall they dare to set at defiance the legislative

gislative power of their mother-country, and trample under foot, with impunity, her most sacred laws and sanctions? Wretches without principle, religion, or truth! shall they be suffered to counter-act the superior wisdom of their sovereign's councils? and whilst with unwearied application we are contriving the wisest and most salutary measures for our master's glory, the welfare of the state, and the support of a legal and a righteous administration, shall they with unprecedented impudence affront his officers, and insult the majesty of government by the most daring and flagitious acts of disobedience? And shall the red emmets yield their assent to such unheard-of insolence of rebellion? Shall they suffer themselves to be trampled upon by an upstart mungrel race? Shall the foundations of their glorious constitution be sapped and undermined by such traitorous and insidious practices? But why do I thus repeat the dreadful tale?

why

why vainly lament for a cause that is ruined? 'Tis all undone. The violence and insolence, Sir, which we have so meanly and tamely submitted to, are the most astonishing tokens of our desponding condition. How shall the ruins of the constitution be repaired? how shall the best of us, after what has past, be able to secure a moment the obedience of such insolent and perfidious subjects? Have we not spent the very blood and vitals of the emmet constitution, to protect them in ease and independence from all their enemies? Have we not expended an almost inexhaustible heap of shining sand, not for our own, but their emolument and safety? And these, Sir, are the returns we meet with. Our riches, our blood, the lives of our bravest and our choicest emmets, have all been sacrificed to encourage their insolence, haughtiness, and disobedience. Nay, to such a height are these things grown, as appears from
their

their late black and horrid transactions, through the conduct or connivance of insidious traitors at home, and the more avowed ones abroad, that the emmet constitution shall be no more the dread and terror of their neighbour ants, or the glory and delight of those who experience the blessed fruits of its mild, beneficent, and uncorrupted administration. — If ever there was a time, Sir, which called for the patriotic spirit of the colony to vindicate the sovereign's honour and the state's prerogative, now or never is the season to crush the Hydra monster of faction and rebellion, and by the most spirited and salutary measures convince the faithful subjects of his majesty, with what zeal and firmness we can unite to support his power and prerogative against all the opposition of the most factious traitors, and secret enemies of their happy constitution and country.

“ The

“ The only method, Sir, we have remaining to crush faction abroad, and to restore a legal administration at home, is to assert with spirit the power inherent in us, as the representatives of the whole colony, and every part and particle thereof; and to convince our most gracious sovereign, and all his subjects, that disobedience and faction are our mortal aversion, and that we will take such measures as shall be found most effectual to protect and preserve his majesty’s realms from all the machinations both of secret and avowed enemies.

“ I move, therefore, that leave, Sir, be granted by this honourable assembly, to bring in a decree for the support of his majesty in the full possession and enjoyment of his power and prerogative, especially in the western parts of his dominions; to ascertain and assert the privileges and authority of the right noble his
majesty’s

majesty's secret junto of these realms, which have been so egregiously violated and abused ; to appoint such a proportionable share of the expences of the government as shall appear to the wisdom of this assembly fitting and proper to be laid upon such disobedient subjects, towards the discharge of those immense debts which have been contracted by the administration here, for what ? only for the encouragement and support of their haughtiness and disobedience : that it be enacted by the authority of this assembly, that such proportionable share of such expences be levied by martial law ; being the only method left at present in his majesty's power to assert his sovereignty, and maintain his prerogative : and that it shall be deemed and declared high treason, for any of his majesty's subjects at the west end of the colony, upon any pretext, to contradict or oppose the execution of any of those orders which his majesty or his council

council shall enforce by martial law, pursuant to the powers invested in them by this decree."

Having thus spoke Meridarpax sat down, when immediately rose up a noble chief, by name Troxartes, who addressed himself to the master of the ceremonies in the following terms :

THE

SPEECH of TROXARTES.

"THE learned and worthy emmet who hath just now been addressing himself to you upon a subject of the greatest importance to the state that ever called forth the attention of this assembly, I flatter myself hath, in a great measure, by the force of his arguments, rendered it needless for me to take up much of the time or attention of this honourable assembly,

fembly, to convince all its members who have any regard either for their prince's glory, or the welfare and prosperity of the state, of the expediency of carrying this decree into execution in all its parts ; but as the ingenious gentleman hath chiefly confined his arguments to the nature of the prerogative, which hath been most audaciously violated ; and the insolence of the subject, which hath been most audaciously defended and vindicated ; I shall, Sir, ask pardon for presuming a little farther upon your patience, to lay before you the expediency of this bill, and its conduciveness, not only to the general interests and welfare of the colony, but also the particular interest and advantage of this eastern end of it, to which we more immediately belong.

“ The first basis, Sir, and foundation of all good government and well-regulated society, especially respecting our connections

nections and communications with our neighbouring emmets, is the support and maintenance of good faith in all the public transactions of the state, and in all our contracts and dealings with our neighbouring ant hillocks round about us.

“ It is the source of confidence and trust, and opens the only generous path for promoting the peace and prosperity of the emmet world by treaties and negotiations ; for where good faith and honour are the preliminary articles, the undoubted consequences must ever be, with neighbours of such known faith and tried integrity as both the brown and white emmets have been experienced to be, a firm confidence in the sincerity and purity of our intentions and designs, which will doubtless disarm them wholly of their resentment and rage at their repeated defeats and disappointments.

“ True

“ True generosity of soul, Sir, is the distinguishing characteristic of every red emmet. It hath marked their character in all ages of the state. What can be more glorious than to exercise this spirit to a conquered enemy ? We have driven them from every place where-ever we have thought proper to attack them, until there is none left for us to force and drive them from worth our attention or consideration, without we were disposed to annihilate their empire, and cause them to cease from being a nation.

“ A step, Sir, however much in our power, the most impolitic, I dare presume to say, we could possibly take ; as it would be to deprive us of that spur to our valour, which our neighbours, whilst they continue formidable, will furnish us with ; and as it would give an opening to that luxury and licentiousness, already introduced amongst us by our successes, to

overwhelm in the end our happy land, and destroy and demolish all our inward prosperity and peace.

“ Mercy, Sir, to a conquered enemy in our power, is one of the noblest precepts of our established religion. It will convince the world that we have not conquered through the lust of empire, or the thirst of gain; and that we had only our own security and safety in our view, when the bravery of our troops caused our flags to fly triumphant upon the loftiest and proudest towers of our enemies. It will convince them, I repeat it, that when that end was answered, and our moderation proportioned to our successes, it would be no difficulty to prevail upon us to grant our humbled enemies not only equitable, but generous terms of pacification.

“ It will bind our foes in good faith to us; it will most certainly and infallibly shame

shame them both from all ungenerous, artful, and over-reaching conduct ; inso-much that a peace established upon such noble principles, and built upon so firm a foundation, must stand unbroken, I do not say for ever, but as long as the memory of such a glorious transaction shall remain impressed upon an emmet's mind and memory.

“ For this salutary purpose, Sir, we ought to give the strongest proofs we possibly can, not only of our magnanimity, but of our integrity, good faith, and generosity ; to restrain the clandestine correspondence of our fellow-subjects with any of their subordinate colonies ; to employ our utmost endeavours not to suffer the western emmets under our dominion, artfully and gradually to swallow up our neighbours wealth ; as such practices must of necessity sow the seeds of distrust amongst them too soon, alas ! to produce

a most plentiful crop of bloodshed and desolation, so carefully to be avoided by every thoughtful and considerate red emmet, whose soul is properly affected with the natural wants and miseries of the emmet world.

“ Our western colonies, Sir, have become exceeding powerful by our connivance; by our assistance they are become exceeding headstrong. If we love our country, and our native hillock, it is our duty to put a curb into their mouths, to restrain them within due compass, lest they should exert the power we have thrown into their hands in acts of violence and rapine, and by their secret communications with our neighbours subjects, break in pieces that strong chain of concord, which hath been forged with so much labour and skill to unite and link the rival nations together, by the wisdom and steadiness of the then administration ;
lest

left their impetuosity should again involve us in another scene of confusion and expence, like that which had so very lately, for their security, almost overwhelmed the mother-colony in an inevitable bankruptcy. But why say I almost? It had surely done it, had it not been prevented by some humane and blessed spirits, who determined it in their own minds to be the noblest measure that could be pursued, to save as well a conquered as a conquering nation from immediate and unavoidable ruin; by such a glorious conduct securing to themselves the unanimous affections and gratitude of both.

“It is a measure, Sir, the more necessary to be pursued, as it will best promote and advance the interest and welfare of the mother-colony, by restraining the power of this mungrel race, and confining their trade within just and moderate bounds, and by effectually guard-

ing against their insolence, from which we have already felt and suffered so much : for by this means we shall check and restrain their independent views, keep them under a firm subjection to our ministers at home, oblige them to be content with our superfluities and our rubbish only, and compel them to convey their own, as they ought like dutiful and obedient children to do, to the sole use and advantage of their most indulgent parent ; that she may be enabled, as her undoubted right, to engross all foreign traffic to herself, and derive to the east end of the colony all the emoluments and advantages thereof, as some small but inadequate compensation for the immense heaps of shining sand which she hath expended for their protection and preservation.

“ It is our duty, Sir, as the guardians of the emmet constitution, and the equal protectors of its laws and privileges, to

oblige the subject every where to pay his quota for the sovereign's glory, and the protection and welfare of the state. It is a maxim, Sir, in every well-governed community, that all the protected should contribute proportionably the means necessary for their preservation; and particularly, that all who require a more expensive protection, should contribute the more largely to it.

“ For all these important reasons, Sir, as I am persuaded the motion now made before this honourable assembly, is the wisest, the noblest, and most equitable measure we can pursue, and most effectual for the purpose of protecting and preserving the grandeur, majesty, and safety of the state; I cannot dispense with myself from giving my warmest suffrage in support of it in its whole extent, as the most prudent step that can be taken in the present exigence, for the relief of the

miseries of the mother-colony, and the effectual curbing and restraining the haughtiness and insolence of all its undutiful and unnatural children. I therefore move, that a decree be immediately brought into this honourable assembly, for this great and salutary purpose; and that it be prepared by the learned gentleman who spoke before me."

Having thus spoke Troxartes sat down; and after a short silence Hypsiboas rose up, and addressed himself to the honourable assembly on the same side of the subject, in the following warm and expressive terms:

THE
SPEECH of HYPSIBOAS.

"I CANNOT avoid manifesting the utmost surprize and astonishment, Sir, at the calm and cool method of argumentation which hath been adopted by the gentleman

gentleman who spoke last, upon a subject of such high and manifest importance as that we have at present under our deliberations.

“ I know his abilities, and acknowledge the wisdom, integrity, and uprightness of his views ; and were the vile people now the subject of our consideration, proper objects either of our mercy or our humanity, I should most heartily subscribe my assent to the lenient methods of so masterly an hand, to reduce a rebellious and a besotted people to their duty and allegiance to the best and most gracious of sovereigns.

“ But is this a time for timid councils ? is this a time for lenient measures ? when the insolence of a mob hath dared to set majesty and the laws at defiance ; hath presumed to trample under foot the most sacred sanctions ; and to sacrifice the most important

important transactions and papers of the state to the flames, with every aggravated circumstance of ignominy and insult that could be invented or contrived by the most audacious impudence? Shall we look tamely on, and let it pass? Shall we, because our laws please not their nice judging palates, submit the important deliberations of this august assembly to be procrastinated and postponed until these insolent, obstinate youngsters shall please to signify what sugar-plum, or what sweet thing, will best restore their tempers, and bless their mother-country with their returning smiles and good humour? Surely the majesty of the red emmets is not come to this! The glory of the sovereign is not humbled to this miserable plight, that he shall be obliged to ask his children pardon for contradicting their tempers, and opposing their pleasures!

“ After

“ After all the glorious achievements performed under the auspices of his government, and that of his glorious ancestors, is it come to this ? Surely it cannot be, that this so great and so gracious a sovereign must creep and crawl, and beg the people whom his wisdom, and his subjects valour, had preserved from ruin and destruction, would take him again into their favour ; would forgive the errors of his servants, and pardon their mistaken conduct ! Forbid it, Heaven, the protector of all wise and just princes ! No ! Let the righteous vengeance of the nation they have thus insulted, be let loose upon them : let our carriages be repaired and fitted out to transport immediately a sufficient quantity of our brave troops, to enforce the orders of our sovereign, and to reduce the rebellious wretches who have dared to defy us to a proper sense of their duty and their allegiance.

“ Let

“ Let them feel the calamities we have so long screened them from, and from which, at last, we have relieved them; and when they have been scourged and chastised to a proper sense of their disobedience and dependence, it may then, perhaps, be time enough to descend to softer measures, and submit, for their benefit, to the gentle plan of government chalked out by those more able speakers who have before me delivered their sentiments to this august assembly.

“ I therefore move, Sir, that, previous to the introduction amongst us of any decree of such great and manifest importance, a sufficient number of carriages be fitted out to execute and inflict condign punishment and vengeance upon this upstart race, before we admit the decree to become the subject of our deliberations; that when their spirits have been sufficiently humbled, they may submit, without murmuring, to the intro-

introduction of that martial law, which, with the honourable gentlemen who have spoke before me on this occasion, I think the only secure means of enforcing any decree, that shall be enacted by the wisdom of this assembly, to oblige them to a proper submission and obedience to the orders of the government."

Having thus delivered himself with great vehemence and warmth upon so delicate a subject, Hyphiboas sat down out of breath; and immediately Seutlæus rose up, and seconded the first proposal in the following terms:

THE

SPEECH of SEUTLÆUS.

"ALTHO' I cannot, Sir, avoid expressing my sincerest satisfaction and approbation of the motion now made by the

the ingenious and learned gentleman who spoke first, upon a subject of such vast importance as that which now is the subject of our deliberations, I cannot forbear, at the same time, declaring my disapprobation of that indecent, unkindly, and untimely warmth, which hath been displayed by him and the gentleman who spoke last upon this subject.

“ I acknowledge, Sir, the justness and propriety of an equal and a general taxation; and that every protected member of the emmet community, in every part of the hillock, ought to pay a proportionable share of the expences laid out in his protection and preservation.

“ I acknowledge the expediency of introducing prerogative law into the extremest parts of the colony, especially the western divisions thereof, which are the most powerful, and the most important
to

to the welfare and prosperity of the state.

“ Let them, in the name of God, enjoy their own bye-laws and privileges ; but as they are, and ought to be, dependents upon the mother-colony, let there be superinduced upon them, by the authority of this august and venerable assembly, that particular species of government which ariseth from the will and pleasure of the sovereign lord, his favourites, or agents. Let them be subject and obedient to his commands, and to all the orders and decrees which all his delegates shall think right and proper, from time to time, to issue out for their observance.

“ Let the power of these delegates be properly enforced by military weight, authority, and influence ; that since they have been so bold and imprudent, and I had almost said knavish and foolish, to oppose

oppose with so much warmth and indifference the wise and salutary measures of taxation, which we had, in our great wisdom, contrived for their welfare, prosperity, and glory; let them, I say, be properly tamed and humbled by the more efficacious methods of discipline, the sovereign's displeasure, and the weight of military power, that they may be made sensible what blessings and favours they have despised, by rejecting the authority we had established over them for their protection, welfare, and good.

“ But then, Sir, let this authority be prudently administered, and this delegated power be mildly exerted, that at the same time their refractory spirits are scourged for disobedience with all the mild severity of an indulgent parent, they may be gently soothed thereby to a stronger and warmer sense of their duty, and be gradually brought to a full and firm persuasion,

sion, that such gentle necessary chastisements and corrections, though for a time they may seem not joyous, but grievous, are entirely calculated with a mother's tenderness and love for their ultimate welfare, prosperity, and happiness.

“ Let them, though they have been greatly disobedient, not be frightened, but coaxed and flattered into their duty.

“ I therefore move, Sir, that a decree be drawn up, and introduced into this honourable assembly, to order, direct, and specify a certain general taxation, to be introduced in the proper forms, and with the proper preambles, into the western part of the hillock, subjecting the goods, chattels, and estates of the inhabitants thereof, under the pains and penalties of forfeiture or sequestration.

“ By this means we shall be enabled to collect, raise, and furnish a certain

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proportion of the yearly value of their income, for the necessary expences and exigencies of the community, over and besides what they may have already assessed upon themselves, for the support and administration of their own interior government and policy.

“ And as their refractory spirits and tempers have shewn the civil power greatly insufficient to enforce our laws and sanctions upon them, let a clause be inserted, that the said proposed taxation shall be levied and collected by a military force. But then, let this be exerted and exercised with all the mildness and good-humour so conspicuous in our fleets and our armies ; and let them be cajoled with politeness out of every thing we think proper to lay upon them, or to exact from them : for thus their rugged spirits will be most effectually subdued, and our sovereign be best enabled to attain his purposes by the civil and genteel behaviour of his soldiers.”

Having so said Seutlæus sat down, when immediately rose up Aeichenor, and with a most graceful and bewitching smile upon his countenance, began as follows :

THE

SPEECH of AEICHENOR.

“ I HUMBLY conceive, Sir, though so much hath been already offered to the consideration of this honourable assembly with such great propriety, weight, and energy of reasoning, by the learned and ingenious gentlemen who have addressed themselves before me upon this uncommon and extraordinary subject ; yet I ask pardon for repeating a second time, that I humbly conceive, I can lay before the worthy members of this assembly some new lights, and some hitherto unthought of or unmentioned arguments, to support, defend, and enforce the motion already proposed.

“ The government and interior policy, Sir, of every well conditioned community in this world of emmets, depends absolutely, and entirely, upon the due regulation and subordination of all its various constituent parts.

“ The body politic, like the natural body, is in its best health, and in its highest perfection, when it enjoyeth a free and regular circulation of all its various fluids and juices; when every particular member executes its due office, and properly exerts its particular power and capacity, so as best to promote the general welfare, health, sanity, vivacity, and spirit of the constitution. And like the same natural body, the body politic, when any of the main springs of action are out of order, becomes sick, weak, and infirm, and in a state of decay, according to the nature and the degree of injury introduced by any means into any of its constituent parts.

“ The consequence is, its motions begin to flag, and it acquires a listlessness in its temper and spirits, which, if not removed in time, by the care and prudence of the most eminent state-physicians, but suffered to corrupt and rankle under the absurd and unskilful hands of empirics, manifest a speedy tendency to corruption and mortification, and at last a total dissolution of the whole frame of the constitution.

“ This, Sir, appears to have been, in some measure, the case with the emmet constitution for a considerable season. But I hope, and flatter myself, Sir, that by a timely and prudent application of the proper remedies, and a becoming use of the healing art, the disorders of the state may be remedied, every symptom of danger that appears may be removed, and by a proper attention to its true crisis and temper, and peculiar habit, I doubt not

but we shall be able, by a suitable regimen, to restore complete health and sanity to the whole frame.

“ For if, Sir, we attend to the disorders of the state, we shall find the chief and diagnostic symptoms to be the want of the free circulation of the vital principle, main spirits, and animal juices of the constitution in its extreme parts and members.

“ For want of this, the parts affected are seized with a languor and torpitude, which impedes the circulation, and proportionably obstructs the motion of all the fluids therein ; and for lack of a due secretion and distribution of these things from the central heart, and the main springs of motion, the nobler parts gradually become clogged with the weight and sluggishness occasioned thereby.

“ Hence

“ Hence are produced tremblings, flutterings, palpitations, paroxysms, and all the whole train of ill-natured symptoms, which indicate the vehemence and manifest danger of the constitutions, health, and welfare.

“ Such appears to have been our case of late years, Sir ; I therefore humbly propose a regular course of regimen and physick to be administered, with the utmost steadiness and regularity of application.

“ The first step I would recommend, Sir, is a proper course of phlebotomy and secretion, to be executed by the standing physicians of the state, to correct and dissipate the vitiated humours, already intermixed with the vital and central parts, and to prepare the constitution for a becoming revulsion of the animal spirits.

E 4

“ I would

“ I would then recommend a course of purging physic, to carry off the remaining parts of the distempered humours, occasionally using caustics, blistering, or sticking plaisters, according to the nature of the symptoms, the degrees of numbness and torpitude, and the various malignity which hath manifested itself in any of the extreme parts : and I dare presume to say, the most salutary consequences will arise from the wise and prudent use of a regimen so plain and obvious to answer the purposes of removing the disorders and distempers of the state.

“ I move for these strong and cogent reasons, that a decree be ordered to be drawn up, and introduced into this honourable assembly, directing the speedy and immediate introduction of the regimen into the colony, and, particularly, that a large and copious phlebotomy be administered in any of the extreme parts, wherever

wherever it shall be found necessary, by the proper officers, for fear the blood should coagulate into a putrid state, and bring a dangerous fever upon the constitution, which being long neglected, may be out of the reach of all political physic whatsoever, to calm its fury, and restrain its rage."

Having thus concluded Aeichenor sat down, when immediately Troglodytes rose up to second and support his brother's motion in the following terms :

THE
SPEECH of TROGLODYTES.

" THE gentleman who spoke last, Sir, hath most learnedly and ingeniously displayed and pointed out those strong symptoms, which every where appear, of the great and dangerous diseases and distempers

tempers of the state, and seems to have chalked out a very wise and salutary method of treating them with the best and the greatest success imaginable. But I cannot avoid imagining, that some succedaneums may be very prudently added to his system, to make the course more perfect, and the process more complete.

“ He hath properly enough prescribed and recommended phlebotomy, and evacuations of various sorts, to remove, and carry off, the peccant and redundant humours, which have, of late, so greatly endangered the health and constitution of the body politic.

“ He hath also, with no less propriety, proposed the introducing a strong revolution through all the parts of the constitution. But, at the same time, permit me to observe, that he does not seem to have pointed out the true method of procedure

cedure in the case, with that exactness and perspicuity which ought to be made use of in prescribing for the diseases and distempers of a decaying constitution, and of the body-politic of the red emmets. For this reason, I take the liberty of offering my poor opinion, that several particular processes may be added, as very useful prescriptions, to remedy and repair the defects already pointed out, which my learned brother hath inadvertently passed over, or not attended to.

“ There are two methods, Sir, of ancient and venerable practice in the world of emmets, which appear, from the experience of all ages, to have been of sovereign efficacy to promote the proper circulation and secretion of the animal juices and spirits, to enable them to throw off and expel any accidental load of distemper that may have been contracted by any bad or criminal habits.

“ These

“ These powerful and efficacious medicines are extremely well known in the learned world, and are principally of two sorts, friction and flagellation.

“ They are both alike to be used to the best advantage by an external application ; the apparatus for that purpose is of exceeding easy procurement and acquisition, and the cost exceeding trifling ; which is no small circumstance in favour of the prescription, as the distressed situation of our granaries renders even the minutest saving of consequence to the public benefit and welfare.

“ All that is necessary for the purposes of the first sort, is a suitable apparatus of brushes of various forms, sizes, and texture ; and of different sizes respecting the length and strength of the bristles, which are to be chosen and made use of according
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to the nature of the disorder in any extreme part, and the duration and degree of torpitude and insensibility in the part affected.

“ In the administration of this remedy let the following rules be observed with care, and they will frequently effect a cure without any other application at all : Let the affected part be first carefully handled and examined ; let the performer, after gently pressing it, begin first with gently pinching and squeezing it, to discover where the part is most strongly affected, and to find out the particular degree of sensibility in the patient.

“ After this, having carefully examined all these previous symptoms, let the operator proceed to the process, by rubbing with a brush proper for the part, first in a gentle manner, gradually encreasing the friction of the affected member to such a degree as to restore a due circulation of the juices by
encreas-

encreasing the heat and fire of the part, so that the restoration of its intestine motion may superinduce a proper and becoming degree of sensibility ; and so proceed through every distempered part and member of the political body, till the health and pristine vigour of the whole be sufficiently repaired and re-established. But should the distemper in any part or member of the constitution be risen to such a head, and the symptoms appear so deep rooted and inveterate as not to yield to this first method of treatment, it will then be found a very prudent step, and the best you can possibly make use of, Sir, to proceed to the second kind of prescription I have just mentioned, and begin a proper and due course of flagellation in the following methods.

“ Take a large rod, or bundle of twigs fast bound up together ; the best sort, Sir, is extracted from the birch-tree, as being the longest, the most flexible and tough,
and

and the best armed with knots at the extremities, so efficacious to promote perspiration, and recover and encrease sensation to the diseased part. As to the method of application, it is too well known to every emmet even of the meanest skill in grammatical learning, to need any particular description. All I shall add in recommending a remedy so convenient and efficacious in removing the disorders of the body, is this, that the application both in its duration and its strength be properly proportioned to the malignity of the distemper in every part of the body politic ; that as flagellation, by the experience of all ages, appears to have been the most approved method of practice to tame and subdue the spirits, and rule effectually the tempers of all slave ants ; so by a proper application of the same discipline to the disorders of those who pretend to assert their freedom under the emmet constitution, they may be, to their cost, convinced of their folly and weakness, and brought by scourging to a
more

more becoming method both of thought and action.

“ For all these important reasons I have laid before you, Sir, I humbly propose to this honourable assembly, since the political disorders of the colony are risen to such a dangerous and malignant height, that a decree be immediately drawn up and introduced amongst us, directing the proper state-physicians to prepare a suitable apparatus of their skill, and proceed to their immediate attendance upon the distempered and corrupted parts ; and that they be fully authorized, by the especial order of this assembly, to proceed without loss of time both to the prescription and practice of every means that may be in the least useful to remove and root out every lurking distemper and ill habit. And I humbly move, that orders be immediately issued, that their several prescriptions and applications may be made with due regularity, and a becoming decency and order :
that

that they begin first of all with gently nipping and pinching any part that appears affected, in the most judicious and scientific manner : that they then proceed to the use of friction, and the proper application of brushes : that they be directed to continue or increase the process both in duration and violence, according to the nature of the symptoms that present themselves during the course of operation. That if the distemper should be so deep rooted as not to yield to this milder and gentler method of treatment, they be ordered to proceed to a strong and regular course of flagellation, administering the process with a becoming attention to the obstinacy of the distemper, the strength and spirit of the patient, and the crisis of its constitution. That if this treatment should not yet be efficacious enough to overcome the violence of the disorder, it be recommended to them to proceed to the application of all the various most approved me-

thods of revulsion, so justly esteemed as a master-stroke in the discoveries of modern physic ; and, by a due course of phlebotomy, the use of caustics, paregorics, and emetics, gradually restore that free and vigorous circulation which is the constant consequence of a spare and abstemious habit of body, and in consequence thereof excite an agreeable titillation through the whole frame, to indicate a thorough sensibility in all the parts of the constitution.

“ After this, let them be ordered to proceed in the common methods of practice to carry off all remaining peccant humours that may lie concealed therein, till the whole is restored to its primitive strength and vigour.

“ Thus, Sir, shall we most effectually preserve, provide for, restore, and maintain the safety and welfare of the emmet constitution.”

Having

Having concluded his address in this manner, Troglodytes sat down ; after which there ensued a short silence, which, to the surprize of every emmet, was interrupted by the rising of Lichopinax, who addressed himself to the master of the ceremonies in the following remarkable manner :

THE

SPEECH of LICHOPINAX.

“ I AM not at all surprised, Sir, when I consider the characters, genius, and temper of my brother emmets, to have heard them so wittily, ingeniously, and artfully display their talents in the defence of our glorious constitution, and its projected deliverance from all those dreadful evils which hang over it, and threaten its entire destruction and dissolution ; since by their very conduct upon this important occasion, they

plainly manifest themselves to have been chiefly actuated in all they have said by their own self interest, the most powerful of all motives in a modern emmet's breast ; or, to say no worse, by a false and mistaken pride, and an unwarrantable ambition, in the various methods of discipline they have recommended as proper to dispel (to speak in their own quaint language) the peccant humours of the state, and dissipate all its gathering tumours and excrescences.

“ But surely, Sir, our happy constitution is not in such mighty and imminent danger as these state-empirics have so elaborately described, and embellished with such a profusion of figurative eloquence, and the various flowers of the rhetorical art. It cannot be, Sir, that a constitution which hath for ages been improving, polishing, and refining, by all the means and methods that could be dictated and pointed out by
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the most distinguished genius and understanding of the emmet race, which hath been so wisely framed and put together, and so strongly and securely jointed, should fall to pieces, and be suddenly brought to ruin and decay by one sudden and convulsive accident : An accident I can take upon me to assert, which might very easily have been foreseen and prevented long ago, if those emmets, to whose sagacity we must alone impute it that it happened at all, had given themselves any sober and serious thoughts upon a matter of such importance to the state.

“ But such is the frailty of some short-sighted understandings, that not a few amongst us are led by the false reasonings, or the more artful influence of their superiors, to abet and support, as the sole means of maintaining the welfare and prosperity of country, and exalt its glory, measures

which are not only repugnant to the rules of natural justice, but contrary, nay diametrically opposite to the safety and even the existence of the constitution itself; measures the most absurd and monstrous that could ever enter the heads of any emmets who have the least shadow of a pretence to either civil or political knowledge, and which, in the end, will be productive of nothing else but the entire ruin and subversion of the state. But why do I expatiate upon a subject already so well understood amongst us, and so deeply felt in this honourable assembly, by the fatal consequences of such a destructive and ruinous measure! The majesty of government hath been insulted; the authority of this honourable assembly hath been impudently called in question; the peace of the colony hath been broken and disturbed in every part. Our carriages have been stopped in their journies; our manufactures and
merchan-

merchandize have been kept spoiling and rotting in our granaries ; and for want of that circulation of the emmet labours which is so necessary to the health, prosperity, and glory of the colony, the industrious ants in all the most valuable and flourishing parts of the hillock have been reduced to poverty, and forced to starve for want of employment. A general stagnation of commerce hath prevailed in every part of the colony ; anarchy and confusion, led on by poverty, distress, and want, have been seen taking large strides amongst us, to destroy, mow down, or root out that regular subordination of ranks and degrees in the colony, which is its best support, and its greatest ornament and glory.

“ To restore tranquility and peace, Sir, and re-establish quiet and good order through the hillock, quite different methods of treatment must be pursued ; methods directly contrary to the poor, mean,

paltry prescriptions of those curious doctors, who have been pleased so artfully and floridly to display their political talents and capacities for healing up or skinning over the sore and malignant distempers of the state, to remove and drive away all its peccant humours and disorders.

“ Such state-quackery, what has it ever done, Sir, what can it ever do but cicatrize for a season the affected parts, and skin over the wounds of the constitution in such a manner as to exhibit through its whole frame little else but scars and blotches, which, upon every fresh attempt either to remove or smother, shew under their surface a fresh sore, and again require the various arts and remedies of healing.

“ If the constitution, Sir, must be mended, and surely our present condition indicates great want of cure, let us strike with all our skill and all our power at the root
of

of our disorders, and put in practice every means we have in our possession to rectify every distemper, and make our constitution once more the envy and the glory of the whole emmet race : Not by external applications to particular parts, not by partial secretions, revulsions, and evacuations, but by a proper use of every internal remedy that can be conceived in the least degree suitable to restore its health, and encrease and confirm its original strength and vigour.

“ Let us not content ourselves with palliatives, but boldly lay open all those diseases which by unskilful, artful, or self-interested treatment have been suffered almost radically to intermix themselves with the original frame, and to unite so strongly therewith as to be of late esteemed even necessary members of the body-politic itself, and quite essential to the free and proper circulation of its juices.

“ If

“ If ever there was a time, Sir, when every part of this happy constitution was maintained in its full vigour and strength, let us direct our thoughts and attention to that business and period of time, and examine with all our faculties the differences that manifest themselves in our present situation, that we may be thereby instructed to correct every grievance that has crept in upon us through negligence, connivance, or art, and remove every obstruction that at this time causeth disorder amongst us.

“ In those happy times when the blessed constitution of the red emmets was well known and understood ; when its laws and privileges were properly revered, honoured, and observed ; the peace, prosperity, and safety of the people was its first, its greatest, and its noblest law, to which all ranks and degrees of emmets paid a most chearful as well as absolute obedience. A second noble principle which

which adorned the emmet constitution was a proper and regular subordination of ranks, from the sovereign to the labouring emmet, who maintained his family, and supplied his granary with the work of his own hands.

“ The great and powerful ants continually extended their protection to all beneath them within the sphere of their authority and influence, that they might severally enjoy their pittance with safety, ease, and comfort ; whilst the latter, with grateful sentiments, acknowledged the protection, and chearfully contributed their utmost to ennoble their protectors, to honour their virtues, and support their dignity ; so that from the sovereign himself to the meanest lord or patron of the most retired recesses of the colony, their mild parental government commanded reverence, respect, and love, from all beneath them ; and all ranks being fully persuaded of the advantages

vantages they derived from such humane and equal laws, were united in one common bond of love, humanity, and mutual friendship, from a firm persuasion, that the general welfare coincided with the private good and secret happiness of every individual, and that no constitution can be at all perfect or good where the meanest subject is liable to oppression, or the greater and more powerful ones are let loose to trample under foot and violate its laws and sanctions with impunity.

“ At that time it was the practice for the sovereign only to acquaint his people with his wants, as they arose from season to season, for the protection and support of the state ; and being persuaded that it was the same thing to ask as to receive from his truly grateful and affectionate subjects whatever appeared needful for the support and glory of the state, he never, when the public wants required their assistance, indulged

dulged his apprehensions of imaginary distresses so far as to cajole his people in order to gratify a rapacious minister or his own more rapacious minions, and persuade them to give more than his real wants required ; nor did he ever wish to mortgage, at a great and inconvenient expence, whatever they thought proper to assign out of their granaries and stores, the more readily to supply his present imaginary necessities, without ever indulging a thought of ever again discharging the incumbrance, or entertaining the least apprehension that the public faith could be strained so far, or the thread of credit drawn out so fine as suddenly to snap in twain, so as to sink this happy constitution in compleat ruin and destruction, never to be recovered from, except by a total and absolute annihilation of those immense incumbrances laid upon his subjects by the arts of his favourites, for the support of their own grandeur, influence, and power.

“ In

“In those happy times, the master of the hillock would not permit himself to be prevailed upon by the contrivances of any such to persuade his happy people to burthen themselves and their granaries with troublesome and unnecessary loads, to create thereby an unlimited trust, and a servile confidence in any of his delegates, to enable them thereby to rule his people with a rod of iron, establishing themselves and their power at the expence of their fellow-subjects wealth and storehouses.

“But alas ! whatever was the happy condition of the red emmets in former times, the case with them at this day is deplorably altered for the worse : The chain of dependence and subordination is totally dissipated and broken through entirely in every link and every division ; the common good, welfare, and advantage of the colony is reduced now only to a very inferior consideration ; the Summum Bonum
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in every modern emmet's breast, the chief, the master passion which now prevails in their constitution, is to enlarge and fill their granaries : nay, so predominant is the lust of gain amongst them all, from the highest to the lowest degree of emmets, that to this insatiable passion, Sir, they will sacrifice most readily opinion, prejudice, religion, passion, nay even fame, reputation, virtue, and every thing else that was formerly laudable and praise-worthy throughout the hillock, and that without the least remorse or anguish of soul.

“ A large and well filled granary is now of infinitely more value than all those old-fashioned virtues and graces put together, which some ages ago we read in the history of the emmet world, attracted the admiration, veneration, and esteem of all the wise and noble amongst them. Integrity, faith, honour, friendship, private affection, all are nothing, all are but vanity and vexation

tion of spirit to every red emmet who hath the least ambition to enlarge his granary, or make a figure amongst his neighbours : nay so generally, so universally hath the contagion spread, that it hath invaded every corner of this once happy hillock, and infected even the most retired parts of the colony, so as to become the chief, if not the sole spring of action to emmets of all denominations amongst us : it hath even acquired such a strange power, and assumed such a magical influence over them all, as to change the colour of their vestments, the shape and colour of their cockades ; nay even the complexion both of their bodies and their minds are subject to its predominant power, secret influence, and sovereign sway.

“ It hath acquired the uncommon power of changing the very political tastes of all, to new model and new mould their religious as well as their civil sentiments, and

and opinions ; to fix the standards of every righteous, polite, and virtuous practice ; to appoint emmets, formerly the warm patrons and protectors of the blue ribbon, as directors of the public affairs and concerns of such emmets whose glory has been in a ribbon of yellow ; to fix emmets, who spurn with scorn at the idea of a Providence presiding over the emmet world, at the head of the rational religion and the religious policies of the state.

“ So that faction being thus completely confounded, dismayed, and discomfited, by the total rout and destruction of party spirit ; Corruption might have a larger opening, and a more easy and agreeable access amongst us, to acquire a proper and becoming influence in the state, as meeting neither contradiction nor opposition in her career. So that the foul fiend acquiring full possession of the

minds and hearts of the whole colony, lawyers and petty-foggers becoming priests, and priests assuming the habits, reasoning, and chicanery of the lawyers, the knights of the white rose lifting themselves under the banners of the yellow, Anarchy might reign triumphant, and Corruption teach all her minions to entertain this mighty truth without remorse, or the least secret silent shame and confusion, *That shining sand alone can constitute the true and genuine happiness of every judicious emmet's soul*; and that it is the sole true foundation of the choicest and most valuable graces and virtues.

“ Hence all rational, wise, and industrious emmets are at last persuaded by these magic wiles and arts, that shining sand ought to be the greatest object of their wishes and desires, their inclinations and their labours, and the most suitable and convenient stuff they can be possess

of, to polish away, or gloss over every blemish; to colour all inequalities and roughnesses, both of mind and body; to smooth and supple every emmet's joints, and communicate that influence, weight, and address, which they think so necessary to complete the happiness of every emmet soul of spirit.

“ This universal principle hath introduced amongst us all its concomitant train of attendants, avarice, bribery, venality, faithlessness, fraud, over-reaching, deceit, lying, railing, backbiting, nipping, scratching, and, in short, every other species of conduct that can possibly proceed from the heart of that emmet who has made the glittering mischief the supreme duty of his soul, and a well-stored granary the sovereign lady of his affections, the spring and source of every irregular passion, desire, and appetite,

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“ Hence

“ Hence spring the shallow friendships, the sworn enmities, the secret cabals, the open villanies, which prosper and triumph through all our avenues and settlements. Hence flourisheth that envy, baseness, detraction, and furious rage, which poison the peace of private friendship, and the freedom and pleasure of familiar intercourses, nay even domestic quiet, happiness, and peace.

“ Hence ensue brawlings and wranglings, with all their attendant mischiefs; all, alas! to corrupt the vital mass of the constitution, and, in the end, bring on its total dissolution and destruction.

“ The dire corruption hath extended its poisons far and wide, with high and low, rich and poor, to proud and mean, from the first and haughtiest subject of the colony to its meanest artizan; all seem infected, and all contribute to spread the pestilential vapour round about them.

“ Happy is it, yea, thrice happy I pronounce it, that it hath hitherto escaped these sacred walls, where corruption hath been ever opposed with the noblest defiance, and the manliest abhorrence and detestation ; where no grand operator ever durst presume to extend his secret influence to bribe and ensnare the unwary judgments of its most righteous and virtuous assessors.

“ To this last asylum, Sir, at length hath fled the poor remains of virtue, honour, public spirit, and the love of our native hillock, so greatly, so wonderfully, and so justly celebrated in the ancient times of the emmet world ; when by a glorious exertion of such virtues as these, hillocks were humanized ; the manners of their inhabitants civilized, refined, and improved ; the different proportions and assortments of property judiciously ascertained ; and wise and equal laws esta-

blished to protect and preserve even the meanest subject from the encroachments of superior power and might.

“ From hence then, as from a glorious center, Sir, let us exert ourselves with becoming spirit, to spread and diffuse the shining blessings round about us; let us embrace the noble opportunity to convince the world about us, that every distinguished virtue, every true grace adorns us, and that we prefer not the glittering glories of a well filled granary to the love of our sovereign, of our country, and our fellow-emmetts. Let us despise the futile succedaneous medicines that have been so artfully prescribed for the disorders of the colony. Let us reject all superficial remedies, as totally ineffectual for the purpose; and shew throughout the hillock that we are animated, as one soul, with every grace and virtue that can adorn an emmet's mind. Let us begin with a radical

dical and effectual process, to root out all the seeds of distemper and disorder from amongst us, and restore that free and orderly subordination of ranks, orders, and degrees of emmets, which ought to subsist through every part of our native hillock.

“ Let us manifest that the love of our colony’s welfare is our greatest and our supreme delight, to advance and promote which, our wishes, our labours, and our reasonings, shall ever be devoted and directed ; and that every individual of us, without exception, have such an honest and prevailing love and affection for our native soil, as to unite with one mind and voice to remove and banish all the grievances that afflict us.

“ For a purpose so amiable and excellent as this, let us begin at the foundation of all the mischief, and by our authority, influence, and example, teach all around

us to root out that selfish disposition which hath so greatly tainted the minds and the practice of all ranks and all denominations in the colony. Let us begin the example ourselves, by laying by our bawbles, our gewgaws, and our rattles. Let us sell up our hobby-horses, and begin each of us to treasure up some few grains of corn, for the relief of our public necessities and wants.

“ Let us, particularly, direct our first care, above all other things, to demolish that gaudy academy which hath so long attracted and ensnared such numbers of our brethren by its false charms and specious allurements ; but, in reality, hath been the chief, I could almost presume to say the only, source of our misfortunes, and the sole spring of all our distresses. Let us dismiss from the public service, with the shame and disgrace they so richly deserve, those celebrated masters
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of discipline who have been so long maintained there at an immense expence, to corrupt the spirits and vitiate the souls of our youth, to sap the vital principles of our happy constitution, and, in the end, to overturn and utterly destroy it.

“ Let us, Sir, endeavour by our example, and steady practice, to teach all around us to banish from their granaries all marks of luxury, extravagance, and wantonness. Let us teach the labouring emmets all around to excel in justice, diligence, industry, and frugality; and let us make it a chosen point with us all to encourage them in the acquisition and exercise of these virtues, by effectually securing to them a becoming proportion of the fruits of their labours. Let us with the utmost detestation and abhorrence, avoid the horrid practice of stripping our dependents and our vassals, and the labouring emmets, of every sort of all their superfluities,

superfluities, and plundering their granaries from time to time, for the only purpose of encreasing our hoards, or gratifying our extravagant, luxurious, and licentious humours, and supporting and maintaining the most egregious follies.

“ By our own œconomy and wisdom, let us introduce plenty into every part of our native hillock, and teach our dependents with becoming pleasure to contribute their several proportions to the same happy purpose.

“ Let us then proceed to extend the same virtues to the management of the public granary and treasure, retrenching with the utmost care all superfluous luxury and extravagance there; suppressing all secret frauds, deceits, and impositions, both in the payments and receipts thereof; and honestly applying every thing allowed by the great council of the colony to the
true

true purposes for which it was designed, and no other, without the least treachery or guile.

“ But above all other things, permit me, Sir, to recommend it as the most salutary measure that can be pursued for the true happiness and glory of our native hillock, that we immediately take down and destroy the windmill, as the most pernicious contrivance that ever was invented to encrease and enlarge the public expences, and aggravate the burthens and distresses of the state.

“ Let it be demolished to atoms immediately ; let it be committed to the flames, and the ashes of it dispersed and scattered abroad at the pleasure of the winds to every quarter of the emmet world ; for whenever this is effectually done, I dare presume to prophesy, that our constitution shall then recover her ancient vigour. We shall
then

then have no occasion to lay constantly heavy burthens upon the industrious emmets, who are both the support and bulwark of our country's safety, and our glory. We shall then never find ourselves under the disagreeable necessity of pursuing arbitrary, artful, or unconstitutional measures, to supply the pretended wants and necessities of the colony : and by thus retrenching and lopping off all the political luxuries that have drawn out the vital sap of the colony for the support of themselves, we shall be enabled to make six millions of wheat and barley grains sufficient to answer the purposes to which eighteen millions have been proposed to be employed, under the guidance of an artful, selfish, or corrupted administration.

“ Thus will the public wants and necessities be exceedingly lessened ; the real calls and occasions of the colony be readily supplied ; the safety, peace, and prosperity of
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of every part wisely provided for, maintained, and preserved ; and all be united in one steady universal contribution from their own several industry to the public wealth, health, and aggrandizement; and all enjoy as their just reward, a proportionable share of the fruit of their labours, for the encrease of their own private comfort, prosperity, and happiness, and the great improvement of their domestic ease and peace. And by thus taking away all unnecessary incumbrances, we shall be put into the best methods we can fall into, to remove those various heavy clogs which lie like a dead weight upon our trade and commerce, chiefly arising from unreasonable and exorbitant taxes and impositions ; so that every track of communication being laid open, plain, and free, our intercourses may be enlarged, and our commerce improved to such a degree as to encrease the natural revenues of the state in such a large and distinguished manner, as to enable them, without

out other assistance, fully to support the ease and stability of government, the true grandeur and glory of the sovereign, and produce at last the complete recovery and health of the state. Let us then trifle thus shamefully no longer, but proceed to demolish without the least remorse or regret these wretched superstructures, and root out those dreadful excrescences, which have so vilely and basely deformed, perverted, and corrupted the true and wise maxims and laws of the colony.

“ Let industry be rewarded, oeconomy of the right sort be encouraged ; let that boasted academy be reduced to ashes ; let the shameful windmill, the cause of all our sorrows, be destroyed and given to the winds ; let all private selfishness be banished from our colonies and hearts ; for then I pronounce we shall again, Sir, see happy times ; and each emmet, even of the meanest degree, possess his little hoard and granary in joy, security, and peace.”

Warmed

Warmed with these patriotic sentiments, the chief seemed desirous to expatiate at large upon the means of rectifying and removing the peccant humours of the state. But the novelty of his propositions, and the unheard of audacity of his views, suddenly excited such a confused noise and tumult amongst the members of this august assembly, and especially the friends and partizans of those doughty chiefs who had so warmly delivered their sentiments on the other side the question, and had been so severely treated by Lichopinax, that his voice was swallowed up in the dire confusion, and he found himself obliged to sit down, however abruptly and against his will, in silence.

The sovereign being immediately informed of the violent tumults, disorders, and disturbances that distracted the councils of the assembly, immediately dispatched his orders by the proper officers, to dissolve

solve the assembly, and command them all to retire in silence and quiet to their respective homes and granaries, till he, in his royal wisdom, should think proper to issue out a fresh summons, commanding their attendance at the grand council of the colony.

Whilst the assembly were separating to their respective homes, in obedience to this command, the Sylph addressed Eugenio with a smooth and still voice and accent in the following terms :

“ Thou seest, mortal, the varied confusions and disorders which, by the indulgence of inordinate and irregular passions, are introduced into the emmet world, to disturb its tranquility, perplex its policies, and destroy its peace. Thou canst not have avoided observing, in the course of those debates which I have introduced thee into the hearing of, how artfully the great and mighty emmets of the hillock can shelter

ter their ambitious, haughty, selfish, and self-interested designs under the specious coverings of the royal authority, the sovereign's glory, and the welfare of the emmet world and state.

“How specious do their reasonings seem to be! But to an impartial mind, and a sound understanding, how futile must all their arguments appear! as the only point they aim to carry is to accumulate fresh loads upon that burthen which has been very long too heavy for the constitution to bear, without tottering and trembling, and at last sinking under the intolerable weight.

“What a melancholy thing must it appear to thine own heart, Eugenio (which I know to be a good one, and which, if thou wilt persevere to observe my directions, I will ever maintain and improve in goodness) to reflect that the best and most bene-

ficent of all the sovereigns of the emmet world should be compelled to repose a confidence in the most artful, interested, and designing people of his vassals : that the necessities of the state should oblige him to consult or trust such sort of emmets chiefly whose main view ever is to enlarge their granaries out of the public spoils, and by every means of private oppression, violence, and rigour in their power, to enslave all ranks and degrees of their fellow-subjects, and plunder them of those various privileges and comforts which it is his constant wish and glory to communicate and ensure, even to the meanest emmet in the hillock.

“ How must his good, gracious, and benevolent soul be distracted, whenever he is told, that by the secret machinations of the false-hearted people about him, he is unwarily made the innocent means of distress and misery to any of his subjects ; and that his sacred name hath at times been prostituted

tuted to support tyranny, ambition, avarice, cruelty, nay, and even the treachery and falshood of his own immediate servants !

“ Oh, Eugenio, my heart yearns within me for his happiness and his true glory as the father of his country !

“ May the Supreme Governor of the world shed his benigneft influences upon his head, and enable him to expel at all times from the foot of his throne, and the radiance of his favour, all fuch false-hearted emmets as fhall secretly confpire to pervert his moft benevolent and moft gracious purpofes in fuch a dreadful manner, to the ruin, deftruction, and mifery of fuch numbers of his fubjects !

“ But hold, Eugenio ! a gleam of light beams in upon my foul, and on a fudden I feel myfelf infpired with the nobleft hopes

and prospects that our united prayers and petitions to the Great Sovereign of the ant creation shall not be fruitless ; for see, Eugenio, yonder goes that secret chosen band whom neither rods, nor whips, nor scourges can intimidate ; whom no bribes can bias to relinquish the real interests, or forget the real welfare of their native hillocks. Not all the secret machinations of those whom thou seest caballing in a secret corner, to overturn or elude their patriotic schemes and designs, shall have the least efficacy or effect, whilst they continue united in the glorious cause, and animated with a warm and strong affection for virtue, integrity, honour, and the love of their fellow-emmetts and their native soil.

“ Inspired with such glorious sentiments, they will continue close combined together, to re-establish the shattered constitution, to restore life to the decayed and mortified parts, and health to those which
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are infected and diseased ; to root out and expel in time its other dangerous humours and disorders, and teach their fellow-emmetts to know and understand these great and momentous truths, That however selfishness, knavery, bribery and corruption, pride, insolence, haughtiness, ambition, cruelty, and the whole catalogue of vices may debase a people, and reduce to the brink of destruction the best system of government and society ever known in the emmet world ; yet disinterestedness, generosity, public spirit, true and unblemished honour and faith shall save a state from ruin ; and prudence, œconomy, piety, religion, and private virtue, shall again raise and restore its glory, and ensure to it a return of its original happiness and perfection.

“ Observe that tall, slender, well-looking ant, Eugenio, whom thou seest at the

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head

head of their consultations ; remark the openness of his countenance, and the frankness of his air and mien ; observe the obligingness of his deportment to all beneath him. That emmet, though distinguished by the highest and noblest advantages both of honour, birth, and fortune, derives neither grace nor glory from such external, adventitious circumstances ; but by the nobleness of his own soul, and the magnanimity of his own heart, riseth superior to the most distinguished honours, and reflecteth a lustre upon that very grandeur and dignity which is esteemed to confer upon such numbers of his fellow-emmetts of a meaner cast, not only all the temporal honours and dignities they assume to themselves, but also a fancied idea of a godlike frame and existence, without which to support them, they would suddenly sink down to the most contemptible situation that can possibly be imagined to exist in the world of emmets.

“ Such

“ Such is the distinguished ant selected by the hand of Providence to be the guardian and faviour of his country. Behold his companions ; observe how the glorious spirit of liberty and freedom beams in their eyes, and illuminates their countenances, so vastly reverse to the gloomy aspects of those self-interested emmets whom thou mayst discover skulking in corners, and caballing together to recover their lost granaries and hoarding-places ; whose minds are animated by the worst dispositioned Gnomes that are permitted to harraß and infest the emmet world and constitution ; whilst, as thou plainly seest by that faculty which I have conferred upon thee, my brother Sylphs are, with the utmost joy and pleasure, fluttering round their chosen, their beloved charge ; animating their spirits, enlarging their ideas, directing their judgments, and assisting them continually in every mental improvement which has the least tendency to adorn their favourites,

or spread the blessings communicated to them far and wide around them.

“ Rejoice with me, Eugenio, at the delightful prospect now before thy eyes, and join with me in the best, the warmest, and most ardent wishes for the prosperity of every salutary design and scheme which they shall encourage, or resolve to put in execution, for the restoration of the public tranquillity, the glory of the sovereign, and the welfare of the state; for the lessening and diminishing the public wants and distresses, and enlarging the means they are contriving to relieve the industrious ants from those dreadful burdens, so enormously accumulated by shallow, short-sighted, rapacious, and corrupt directors and administrators.

“ May they, whilst they are gloriously employed in relieving the distresses of the state, be ever inclined to direct their benevolent

nevolent attention to the ease, the comfort, peace, and quiet of every individual deserving emmet, within the sphere of their observation !

“ May their souls abhor the favourite system, now so much in fashion amongst their adversaries, of wrapping up their vassals and dependants, like so many mummies, in swaddling-clothes ; and then by means of artful and dexterous agents, writhing and twisting them, when thus enveloped, into all shapes and forms, till they constrain them to promise to shed every drop of blood and sweat in their bodies, for the support of their master’s extravagance and insolence, without a murmur, or the most secret groan !

“ May the hearts of this chosen band be humanized by a nobler strain of modulation than these modern times can seem to boast of ! May they rejoice to see
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their vassals flourish in plenty, prosperity, and ease ! May they take pleasure, at all times, in encouraging their industry, by securing to them the just reward of all their toils and labours ; and may the glorious system of mutual affection, connexion, and dependence, which formerly was the noblest bulwark of the emmet constitution, be again restored ! May the patron and the vassal, in every corner of this happy hillock, be both devoted from the noblest motives to the interest of liberty and their country's welfare, and steadily united in a reciprocal law and affection for the mutual support of one another ; the vassals gratefully acknowledging the patrons generous protection and munificence, by all those services that are suited to their stations, and becoming their conditions ; and the patrons by their humanity, generosity, and beneficence, protecting their dependents in the secure and peaceable enjoyment and possession of

of their diminutive granaries and store-houses !

“ May they never suffer that blood-sucking generation of horse-leeches, which have, of late years, so strongly attached themselves to every great and powerful emmet, and now begin to be considered as even necessary not only to their comfort but their existence, as necessary as their best and most inward clothing, be no longer let loose to bite, scratch, and devour their inferiors without remorse and without mercy !

“ May they have the spirit to keep all such continually chained up, and curbed with bit and bridle, as evil, but necessary, implements, to whip and scourge the profligate and abandoned emmets only, and reduce them again by discipline to their diligence and their duty ! But may they suffer no leech to come near the honest,
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upright,

upright, and industrious emmet, to break up his granaries, to ransack his hoards and his stores, to plunder away the fruits of his industry, and suck out, at last, his vital blood, to gratify his own private malice and rancour, hatred and spleen, or for some secret selfish views of his own, to oppress and crush the least industrious emmet in the hillock !

“ May a mutual intercourse of good offices between the high and the low, the rich and the poor, make all such vermin an unnecessary burden, and thereby cement the peace and tranquillity of society, that all may unite in the noble practice of enlarging their granaries by honest and virtuous methods alone ; to open, extend, and encourage every track of communication with the different parts of the hillock, by the most upright, faithful, and honourable dealings ; to establish commerce upon
its

its true foundation, a mutual attention to the various, real, or artificial wants of one another, without cozening, over reaching, biting, and nipping; and scorning to aggrandize their native hillocks, themselves, their granaries, or families, at the expence of public or private faith, honour, and integrity!

“ May they, according to the expressive language of the black emmets, their friends to the westward, brighten up the chain which links them together in mutual love and friendship, by every act of generosity and beneficence, and a constant intercourse of all good offices, that can endear them to one another as fellow-subjects of the same mild and gracious sovereign! that the blessings of this happy constitution may be preserved untouched, entire, and uncorrupted; and the benign spirit of true and generous freedom of soul, with all its genuine consequences,

sequences, may be delivered down in the most generous manner, and effectually secured, even to the latest posterity; that the mild sovereign who now rules the colony, may not wear a crown of thorns, through the perverseness, vice, villany, or knavery of his subjects; but by their integrity, benevolence, and public spirit, may it ever be adorned with the most precious of all jewels, jewels infinitely superior in value to the glittering emerald or the sparkling diamond, the precious jewels of peace, tranquility, and prosperity; and the possession of that greatest of all glories, that noblest of all characters, the being the mild and gracious father of a happy, quiet, and a grateful people.

“Such, Eugenio, are, or ought to be, the ardent prayers and wishes of every red emmet, who is true to his principles, and affectionate to his country; and such, I trust,

trust, are the chosen band selected out by Providence to save and redeem a sinking nation ; notwithstanding the difficulties which will be thrown in their way by the secret machinations of traitors, and such false-hearted ants as will sacrifice every thing to their pride, their avarice, and their lusts. It is easy for me to see all their difficulties : I hope it will be no less easy for me and my brethren to obviate, and remove them all. Let me point out some of them to thee, Eugenio. Observe their private cabals, they are too plain and obvious to be concealed : they are even at the present moment gathering in corners, and rallying their routed strength to counteract and overthrow the judicious designs of their opponents, whom they opprobriously term (tho' with the greatest injustice) their supplanters in the favour of their sovereign, and the government of the colony.

“ Observe

“ Observe that knot of emmets so close knit together, in a retired corner; they are the chiefs of the cabal. Grieved for the loss of their secret hoards, which are now intended to be laid open for the benefit and emolument of the public weal, they are at this moment setting every engine at work to pull down and demolish the structure which public virtue is now raising for the protection and defence of the colony, and concerting every secret contrivance in their power to sap its foundation, and totally overturn it, to the entire ruin of it all.

“ I know, Eugenio, thou lovest thy own country, and most sincerely wishest its fame, welfare, and glory. I will take thee nearer, that thou mayst the more clearly see by the conduct and behaviour of such pernicious emmets as these are before thy eyes, what dreadful consequences must, even amongst thy fellow-beings,

beings, arise from sheltering such harpies in the bosom of government, whose chief happiness consists in the destruction of order, the perversion of truth, and the total confusion of all faith, principle, honour, and virtue. When such are suffered to preside and attend at your councils, and thrust themselves into the most awful and solemn assemblies of your people, what can ye expect, except anarchy, disorder, tumult, treachery, both private and public, rapine, peculation, and every other vice which can infect a nation where wickedness is not only connived at, but permitted to reign in high places, and successful villany to ride triumphant thro' your streets?

“Observe that knot of emmets yonder, how close they are knit in consultation together.—But hold, Eugenio, I will carry thee a little nearer yet, that thou mayest be made fully sensible to what a super-

lative degree the malice, insolence, and pride of an emmet's mind is capable of being carried, when hurried on by the heats of passion, and the wild, irregular, and unmeasurable fallies of ambition and revenge.

“ See, they are even now flattering themselves, that notwithstanding the seeming appearances against them, the system they have so artfully reared, and so long supported, and which hath been so ably and so wisely contrived to enslave the whole colony ; (not to the sovereign, Eugenio, no, there is no fear or danger of that, but to themselves, who have made and created themselves and their minions, by the system of corruption introduced and established into all parts of the hillock for a generation past, the necessary governors and directors of the sovereign's noble and beneficent spirit) will effect the execution of the secret, private, partial,

partial, and interested schemes of their own narrow, contracted spirits. They seem assured, that the weight of debts ; the knavery of contracts ; the love of tyranny in the inferior departments of the state ; that universal, unmeasurable selfishness so successfully fixed in the hearts of all the red emmets, of almost every rank and denomination ; that venality which is the certain consequence of immoderate selfishness ; that corruption which is the favourite daughter of luxury and lust ; the frequent use of the gaming-tables which are in fashion amongst the wealthy emmets, as much as among you mortals of a nobler cast ; the sudden necessities which even the great are sometimes reduced to by a run of ill fortune, or the superior management of a set of sharpers artfully combined together to effect their ruin ; all these dreadful diseases and distempers of the body-politic they deem their sheet-anchor ;

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and upon the continuance and progress of these evils and vices they build their choicest hopes, that notwithstanding all the efforts of the just and righteous patriots of the colony, notwithstanding their disinterested schemes and salutary designs for the restoration and maintenance of public faith, public peace, and public prosperity, their patience shall have its perfect work at last; they shall see, and that ere long, the utter downfal and destruction of those airy phantoms which the false glasses of philosophy have transformed into real substances, and represented as the greatest blessings of the emmet world.

“ They trust to the natural depravity of the emmet heart for the speedy restoration of themselves and their minions, with a seven-fold lustre, to the throne of power; and that every effort which liberty and freedom may make to re-establish themselves in the hearts of the emmet world, shall the
more

more largely contribute to their own glory, grandeur, and aggrandizement, by laying these their most mortal enemies open to more cruel and deadly stabs ; and thus enable them more effectually to sink them all so deep in the pit of destruction, as never to rise again to counteract their schemes, and disappoint their views of raising themselves to the pinnacle of fame and grandeur, and displaying their glories as the wanton, lordly, absolute tyrants of the red emmet world.

“ Secretly animated with such baleful prospects, they sit patient and gloomy, brooding over the destruction of the colony, flattering themselves in secret, that the time shall speedily arrive when they shall spurn their enemies from their patriotic heights, and trample under foot all their Utopian schemes of reformation ; at present contenting themselves with secret-

ly counteracting their designs, counterworking their views, and artfully undermining the principles of faith, truth, integrity, honesty, generosity, and religion, originally implanted in every emmet's breast, by presenting to their view the glittering appearances of shining sand, as the sole foundation of virtue, religion, happiness, and glory, and as the Summum Bonum or chiefest good of every emmet's soul. But I hope and trust, Eugenio, that all their malicious and flagitious schemes and counsels shall be disappointed and defeated, and return with the truest justice and severest vengeance upon their own heads, and that the supreme governor of the emmet race will defeat all their machinations, and empty the vial of his vengeance upon them, to make them signal examples of the fatal effects of rapacity, covetousness, pride, unmeasurable ambition, and

and inordinate self-love: And that so long as there shall be a righteous sovereign upon the throne, and ten righteous men in his realm, the happy constitution shall preserve itself in the midst of the most violent agues and convulsions; that it will naturally shake off its peccant humours, and the *Salus Populi* shall be its salvation.

“If thou lovest virtue, Eugenio, thyself, and thy country, join with me in the wish; for as sure as public virtue, integrity, beneficence, and generosity of spirit, exalt a nation and make a people happy, so surely will the contrary and opposite vices gradually bring on the destruction of all peace, order, and prosperity, in every community, whether it be in the world of emmets, or a superior order of existences, such as human nature boasts and prides itself to be.”

Here the Sylph concluded his harangue; and taking the philosopher up as he had
done

done before, he suddenly transported him to the same place from whence he brought him ; and signifying that he had received the orders of his superior to leave him to himself and his own reflections for a season, he gently set him down, and then immediately vanished out of his sight.

The philosopher recollecting the hillock just under his feet, and enraged at the dreadful picture the Sylph had drawn of that depravity and corruption which had invaded and filled the minds of a particular cabal of the red emmets against the innocent, the quiet, and peaceable parts of the colony ; and being fully satisfied, that they were so exasperated at the late overthrow of their measures as to stick at nothing which fury and rage could inspire, to put their destructive schemes into full and complete execution ; roused with resentment at their dire attempts, and warmed with a fervent zeal for the protection of the wor-

thier and more beneficent part of the hillock, he determined to crush all their wicked designs in the bud, and by one dash of his foot, to root out and totally annihilate such a vile and abandoned race; when immediately advancing to strike his foot against that part of the hillock, with a view to extirpate without exception every noxious ant, he gave it such a violent blow against one of the bed-posts as awakened him out of a profound sleep, when the philosopher found, that all the busy scenes which had so strongly possessed his imagination were ideal only, and the whole rhapsody but the Phantasm of a Dream.

F I N I S.

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E R R A T A.

Page 14, line 7. for *metal* read *nettle* ; p. 19, l. 11. for *stall* read *state* ; p. 54, l. 17. for *beart* read *beat* ; p. 69, l. 20. add *their* ; p. 69, l. 21. for *exalt* read *exalting* ; p. 81, l. 10. for *rational* read *national* ; p. 83, l. 18. for *duty* read *Deity* ; p. 107, l. 10. add *to*.

A T A T T E



